

# APPENDIX A

## CONFIDENTIAL RECORD SHEET

REGISTRATION SERVICE  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Date October 12, 1988

Social Security Number Unknown

Full name Dennis D. Nicholson

(No initials if you can possibly get full name)

Address [REDACTED]

City Cedar Falls State Iowa ZIP 50613

Date of birth February 10, 1963 (This is important and should be exact.)

Approximate age 25 (To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known.)

Religion Unknown Nationality American

Occupation Laborer - Cedar Falls Parks Department

Education High School

Weight 165 lbs Height 5'9" Race White

Color of hair Dark Brown Color of eyes Unknown

Outstanding characteristics or interests Long hair, mustache, glasses

Married or single Single Children None

(Number, ages, and names, if possible)

Spouse's name None

### Scouting connections:

Unit No.	City	State	Position	Date registered	Date resigned
<u>Troop 179</u>	<u>Cedar Falls</u>	<u>Iowa</u>	<u>Scoutmaster</u>	<u>02/10/84</u>	<u>10/12/88</u>
Special Recognition <u>None</u>					

Suspended or denied registration for following reasons: Inappropriate actions with youth that border on physical and sexual abuse as reported to the Iowa Department of Human Services and the Cedar Falls Police Dept. Based on letter and verbal reports of youth and parents  
SPECIFY THE FACTS THAT LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION, AND LIST ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE, OR SPECULATION):

Signed [Signature]

Scout Executive

Council Winnebago #173

7

CONFIDENTIAL

OCT 19 1988

F. STARON

DEC 29 '88

JOSEPH L. WATSON

CONF028630

January 3, 1989

Mr. M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive  
Winnebago Council, No. 173

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Dennis D. Nicholson

Dear Tom:

Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter. This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

eko

cc: North Central Region

READY TO FILE

JAN 03 1989

ERIN O'RILEY

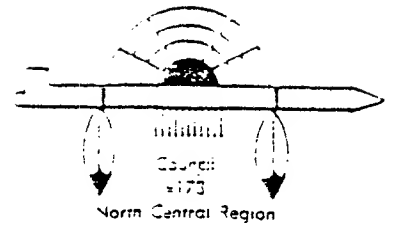
CONF028631



# WINNEBAGO COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

2929 Airport Boulevard  
Waterloo, Iowa 50703  
(319) 234-2867

Serving yearly thousands of boys and teenage girls in 17 counties of northern Iowa through partnership with chartered community organizations.



December 5, 1988

Paul Ernst  
Director Registration Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

Thanks for your recent letter asking for additional information on Dennis Nicholson which we recently placed in your confidential file.

I'm enclosing a copy of a letter which I received from a parent which initially began this investigation and led to Dennis Nicholson's removal from Scouting. Unfortunately, there is not any more documentation which we can provide. Both the Iowa Department of Human Services and the Cedar Falls, Iowa Police Department investigated Nicholson but we were unable to receive copies of their reports due to the laws of confidentiality which exist in the state of Iowa.

Hope that the enclosed will be sufficient for your files. If there is any other way that we may be of help, please let me know.

Sincerely,

M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive

MTS/dbf

Enclosure

cc: John C. Young, Area Director  
J. Thomas Ford, North Central Region



Operating Income Derived from United Ways, Sustaining Memberships, and Trust Funds

SNE



CONF028632

On Saturday, April 16th my oldest son (12 yrs) called home and said him and some of his other friends wanted to spend the night at their new scoutmasters house. The leaders name was Dennis, Troop 179.

A few hours later Dennis and a couple of boys came to my house to get a sleeping bag and Dennis came in with my son. He said he was the leader of a parent-sponsored group (and had been for 7 years) and that he wanted to take the boys camping at camp Igwands.

Dennis saw my other son (a [REDACTED] this year) and said he could go ahead and join boy scouts now too and go along on the campout. He left me two registration forms and they left.

The following day about 5 or 6 o'clock in the evening Dennis dropped off my oldest son, who had very bad

as usual, and left without coming to boys  
to know or anything. ~~The rest of the boys~~  
Dennis house. After my son had  
been in the house about 10 minutes  
he started crying and asked if he  
had to join scout. I said of course  
not - and asked why. He said that  
Dennis had held him over the fire  
and wouldn't quit. I called my  
youngest son home and then  
talked to them both about their  
weekend. The following are some  
of the things that went on:

- Another man (supposedly also a leader  
from that troop - named Matt Cunningham)  
told the boys it would be warmer  
to sleep with no clothes on.
- At the campout when the boys were  
in their bags with no clothes on,  
Dennis was trying to pull them out.
- They were making torches and  
going off in the woods with them.
- Dennis was backing the boys  
up with torches (holding torches out  
at them)

wasn't  
along  
Dennis

- Dennis held 2 boys over the campfire against their will.
  - He bent one boys fingers back and wouldn't quit when asked to.
  - He walked on their back when they were in their sleeping bags.
  - They burnt underwear and clothes on sticks over the fire and Dennis threw burning pants on one kids sleeping bag.
  - Dennis threw sticks at the kids even when they wanted him to quit.
  - Told them they were at war against Troop. 44.
  - One son woke up with him massaging his chest & thought it was because he had Asthma - but said he started going down to his lower stomach so he turned over.
  - <sup>He</sup> Made fun of my youngest son (10) when he was changing his pants saying that he was masturbating.
- I think this man is dangerous and unsound. He should not be around children!

December 1, 1988

Mr. M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive  
Winnebago Council, No. 173

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Dennis Nicholson

Dear Tom:

We periodically follow-up on all of our Confidential File cases and this one has come to the top of the stack.

We still would like a copy of the letter you received, and also a narrative statement of the verbal reports from youth and parents. This is most necessary, if we are to have the documentation which will enable us to refuse registration anywhere in the country.

Thanks for your help in protecting the youth of America.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

ag

cc: North Central Region

READY TO FILE  
DEC 01 1988  
ERIN ORILEY

CONF028636

October 19, 1988

Mr. M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive  
Winnebago Council, No. 173

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Dennis Nicholson

Dear Tom:

Thank you very much for the material your recently sent concerning the above named individual. The Confidential Record Sheet is most complete and we should have all the necessary information for identifying Mr. Nicholson should he attempt registration at a later time.

We would like to have some material which would substantiate our refusal. You indicated that you have a letter and other reports from youth and parents related to the physical and sexual abuse. Please enclose copies of this material plus any other narrative statement which you can give which would help to support our refusal in today's legal world.

Thanks for your help in completing this file and protecting the youth of America.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

ag

cc: North Central Region

READY TO FILE  
OCT 19 1988  
ERIN O'RILEY

*Added to CF file  
Deleted from  
file  
10/18/88  
Jm*

CONF028637

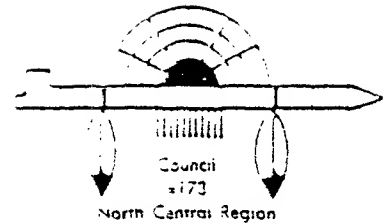




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October 13, 1988

Paul Ernst  
Director, Registration Services  
National Office  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75105-2079

Dear Paul:

As Scout Executive of the Winnebago Council, I hereby request that Dennis D. Nicholson of Cedar Falls, Iowa be placed in the Confidential File of the Boy Scouts of America.

I have enclosed a copy of a memorandum of the meeting at which we suspended Nicholson's registration and the letter which was presented to him at that time. In addition, I have enclosed a completed Confidential Record Sheet on Mr. Nicholson. We have removed him from our registration file.

Thanks for your help in this matter. If you have questions or need additional information please contact me.

Sincerely,

M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive

MTS/dbf

Enclosures: Memorandum of registration suspension meeting.  
Letter of registration suspension.  
Completed Confidential Record Sheet.

cc: Albert C. Duroe, Council President  
Robert W. Braun, Council Legal Counsel  
John C. Young, Area Director



Operating Income Derived from United Ways, Sustaining Memberships, and Trust Funds

SME



CONF028638

MEMORANDUM ON 10-12-88 MEETING WITH DENNIS NICHOLSON

On Wednesday, October 12, 1988 at 4:00 p.m. a meeting was held with Dennis Nicholson at the Council Service Center. Participants in the meeting were: Dennis Nicholson, Scoutmaster of Troop 179 in Cedar Falls; Harry Sullivan, Council Vice President; Tom Stovall, Scout Executive; and Tom Przybylski, Senior District Executive of Wabun District.

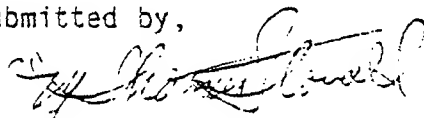
Nicholson was given a letter which he read indicating that his registration with the Boy Scouts of America had been suspended and that he was to sever any relations with the Boy Scouts of America. He was also given a copy of the procedures to be followed if he wished to have this decision reviewed, and was given a check for \$5.00 as a refund of his adult registration fee.

Nicholson was told that the council has determined that his leadership ability did not meet the standards of membership in the B.S.A. and that this action was being taken in the best interests of the Scouting program. He was also told that the suspension of his registration would be kept confidential and that we only wish that he sever all ties and activities with Scouting.

The procedures for the review of this decision was discussed and Nicholson was told that if he wished to have it reviewed that he would need to submit a letter to the council within 60 days requesting a review.

The meeting was ended and Nicholson left at approximately 4:25 p.m.

Submitted by,

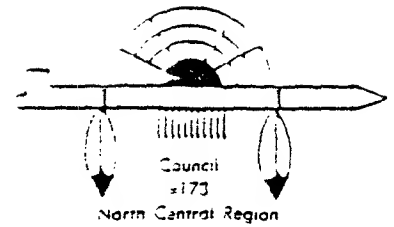
  
M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive



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October 14, 1988

Paul Ernst  
Director, Registration Services  
National Office  
Boy Scouts of America  
P.O. Box 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

Enclosed please find a copy of the letter of registration suspension for  
Dennis D. Nicholson. This copy was inadvertently left out of the material  
sent to you on October 13 regarding Mr. Nicholson.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Sincerely,

Darlene Flaig  
Office Manager

Enclosure



Operating Income Derived from United Ways, Sustaining Memberships, and Trust Funds

SME



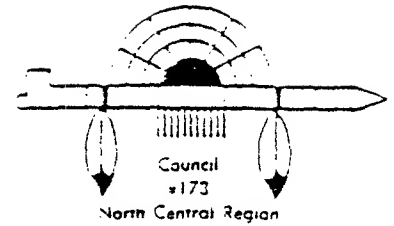
CONF028640



# WINNEBAGO COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

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October 12, 1988

Dennis D. Nicholson  
[REDACTED]

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

After careful review, we have decided that your registration with the Boy Scouts of America should be suspended. We are therefore compelled to request that you sever any relations you may have with the Boy Scouts of America. A refund of your registration fee is enclosed.

You should understand that BSA membership registration is a privilege and is not automatically granted to everyone who applies. We reserve the right to suspend registration whenever there is a concern that an individual may not measure up to the high standards of membership the BSA seeks to provide for American youth.

If you wish to have this decision reviewed, please write to me within 60 days of the date of this letter, explaining your version of the facts supporting your claim that your registration as a BSA member should be reinstated. The procedures for review are attached.

Sincerely yours,

M. Thomas Stovall  
Scout Executive

MTS/dbf

Enclosed: \$5.00 check for refund of registration fee  
Procedures for review of registration suspension



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CONF028641

APPLICANT PROCEDURE FOR REQUESTING REVIEW  
OF DECISION DENYING REGISTRATION

1. If registration is refused, the applicant may request a review of this decision. This request must be in the form of a written request from the individual which includes his or her version of the facts supporting the claim that registration should not have been denied.
2. Upon receipt of the written request for review, the president of the local council shall appoint a committee to review the decision.
3. The appointed committee should review the facts as presented, and, in addition, may interview any persons whose testimony might assist the committee in discovering the truth and arriving at a correct decision.
4. A confidential report will be given to the applicant setting forth the decision of the committee.
5. The applicant may--if he or she does not agree with the decision--request a review from the regional director by submitting a written request for such a review within 30 days of the receipt of the local council decision.
6. If the regional review does not satisfy the applicant, he or she may ask for further review by the National Council by submitting a written request for such a review within 30 days of the receipt of the regional decision. The decision by the National Council is final.

YOUR REF. NO.	YOUR INVOICE NO.	INVOICE DATE	INVOICE AMOUNT	AMOUNT PAID	DISCOUNT TAKEN	NET CHECK AMOUNT
		10/05/88	\$5.00	\$5.00		\$5.00
		Refund of adult registration fee.				



WINNEBAGO COUNCIL NO. 173  
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
2929 AIRPORT BLVD.  
WATERLOO, IOWA 50703

NATIONAL BANK OF WATERLOO  
WATERLOO, IOWA

008446

DATE	CHECK NO.
10/05/88	8446

CHECK AMOUNT
\$5.00

Five dollars and no cents-----

PAY  
TO THE  
ORDER  
OF

Dennis D. Nicholson  
[REDACTED]  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

*Thomas H. Lenzel*  
*Verinda Woodruff*

⑈008446⑈ ⑆073900438⑆ 678 218 3⑈